



## October/November/December 2013 Newsletter

### Director's Message

In the previous newsletter, I mentioned how busy we were at POST. That pales in comparison to the current cycle. We've made headway on a number of projects and are looking forward to the challenges of 2014.

The Board approved the strategic plan at the September board meeting resulted in the strategic plan. The top two goals of increasing funding to POST and developing a mandatory in-service training program required immediate work. The Board also approved related statutory changes at its December meeting. Members of the Attorney General's Office will be working with members of the legislature to move this forward.

We are also working to finish a contract for the interactive database program. The vendor has contracts with over a dozen POST agencies as well as federal agencies. As soon as the contract is finalized, I will send out more information.

We continue to work on the certification test and plan to implement it in early 2014. We will have updates on the firearms training program, Below 100 program, mandated training, grant funding and the Law Enforcement Torch Run in this newsletter.

On a somber note, Colorado Springs Officer Laura Cochran, a member of POST's Arrest Control SME Committee, passed away on December 16<sup>th</sup> after a brave battle with cancer. She was a passionate and dedicated member of the committee. Her spirit will carry on in their work and she will be sorely missed. Our condolences to members of her family and the Colorado Springs Police Department.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

### Firearms Training Program

At the September meeting, the POST Board requested that the Firearms SME Committee meet to discuss the firearms qualification score, remediation, targets, and videotape the current course of fire, all for presentation to the Board. At the Board meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup>, the video of the qualification course was presented. The Board adopted a standardized target (Modified TQ-15) for immediate implementation for the basic and reserve academy qualification course of fire. The final board decision was to mandate minimum hours for remedial training following any failure of a formal attempt. Also a remediation period was added following a third failure on the qualification attempt, followed by a fourth attempt. These changes to the firearms training program can also be found on our website.

### Below 100

We are currently finalizing the presentation of two train-the-trainer courses for February or March of 2014. One class will be held by the Adams County Sheriff's Office and the other by the Grand Junction Police Department. The morning session will be a presentation of the Below 100 program and will be open to as many as the facility can hold. The afternoon session will be for trainers with a maximum attendance of 30. More information will be sent as soon as the courses are scheduled.

An online version of the course is under development by Knowledge Factor in conjunction with several experts. The development of the course is a collaborative funding effort between the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA) and POST. The Board felt it was important to do both classroom and online instruction to get the course to as many law enforcement officers as quickly as possible.

### Legislative Training Mandates

The Elder Abuse curriculum has been scaled to four (4) hours. POST greatly appreciates the assistance of members of the Jefferson County District Attorney's

Office, Lakewood Police Department, Westminster Police Department, Boulder County District Attorney's Office and the Boulder County Sheriff's Office in the development of this course.

The course will be presented at the following dates and locations:

1/31 - Westminster PD  
2/05 - Boulder County SO  
2/13 - Lakewood PD  
3/12 - Highlands Ranch Training Facility  
3/14 - Westminster PD  
05/14-05/15 Grand Junction  
6/05 - Otero County

For the Westminster courses, attendees can RSVP to Jessica Beren at [jberen@CityofWestminster.us](mailto:jberen@CityofWestminster.us) if possible or call 303-658-4415 if you don't have access to email. The host location site is the Westminster Public Safety Center, 9110 Yates Street Westminster. All Westminster attendees must have their department identification on and visible while in the building.

Information about registration for the other courses will be distributed as soon as possible.

As a reminder, on and after January 1, 2015, each county sheriff and each municipal law enforcement agency of the state shall employ at least one peace officer who has successfully completed the training curriculum. But ALL peace officers from these agencies will be mandatory reporters, so part of the training will give tools to the attendees to train other agency members.

The School Resource Officer (SRO) curriculum has also been completed. This training has the same attendance requirement as the Elder Abuse training. It's expected that the Corbin course or NASRO 40- hour training course will be grandfathered in. The new curriculum is a 48- hour course, with 16 hours devoted to a single officer response to an active shooter.

POST is appreciative to members of the CASRO Board of Directors and CASRO members, John Michael-Keyes of the I Love U Guys Foundation, John McDonald of

Jefferson County Public Schools and Sergeant A.J. DeAndrea of the Arvada Police Department for their assistance with the development of the course.

### Peace Officer Training Program (Training Grants)

The Colorado POST Grant Program is announcing the availability of funds for the training of law enforcement peace officers, particularly small and rural agencies, for FY 2015. Funds are subject to state legislative allocation.

The funding cycle for POST begins July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The POST grant program year is July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

In order to be considered for funding applicants must submit an application via the POST grant management database by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Entities which have previously received funding from POST have continual access to the database. New applicants should contact Grant Manager Becky Calomino for access to the system and to receive further instructions. Her contact information is [becky.calomino@state.co.us](mailto:becky.calomino@state.co.us).

As a condition of funding, POST designated Training Regions shall conduct and submit a needs assessment of the area or region served including an executive summary, key findings and priorities and a description of the needs assessment process along with their application. Additional details are in the POST Grant Guidelines.

Eligible applicants must be a local government, college, university or not-for-profit for the purpose of funding peace officer training programs. Eligible use of funds includes: training, training equipment, training supplies, backfill and travel costs for both students and instructors. Program delivery and grant administrative funds are also available.

### Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Special Olympics Colorado Law Enforcement Torch Run is a program where members of law enforcement raise awareness and funds to benefit Special Olympics in Colorado. In addition to running a torch throughout the state prior to the Summer Games, there are many activities where law enforcement and their

communities support Special Olympics. This effort started in Wichita, Kansas, over 30 years ago and is now an international effort, raising over \$45 million last year.

POST is proud to be part of this effort as it's not only an opportunity to bring law enforcement and communities together, it joins many agencies together. The Torch Run is supported by the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police and the County Sheriffs of Colorado Association.

The 2014 Kick-Off Conference will be held on January 10, 2014, at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, starting at 9 am. You are encouraged to send representatives from your agencies to learn more about the Torch Run and how to get involved. The founder of the Torch Run, retired Chief Richard LaMunyon, will be the special guest speaker. To register, contact Jan Gordon at (720) 359-3112 or [jg@SpecialOlympicsCO.org](mailto:jg@SpecialOlympicsCO.org).

#### POST Certification Test

We are no longer working with I/O Solutions to develop and go online with the certification test. POST is working with Dr. Thomas Haladyna and a newly formed SME committee to write test items. The items are currently being field tested and will be analyzed in January. We hope to implement the new test soon after the analysis and go online with the new online testing module this spring.

#### 2014 POST Manual

The 2014 version of the POST Manual will be available no later than January 1, 2014. We will post the printable manual on the POST website as soon as it is available.

#### **Next POST Board Meeting:**

**March 7, 2014, 10:00 am.**

**Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center**

**1300 Broadway First Floor Conference Room (TBD)**

**Denver**

**SME Committees meet at 8 am.**